

# Undergraduate Catalog of Courses

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## Interfaith Leadership

Saint Mary's College of California

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## INTERFAITH LEADERSHIP

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Today where cross-cultural and cross-religious contacts are nearly ubiquitous, professionals in various sectors (e.g., healthcare, law, business, education, NGOs, government service and public policy) are beginning to recognize the need to address the religious/spiritual dimensions of their work not only to serve more compassionately and effectively, but also to contribute to the evolution of a more inclusive and just society. The Interfaith Leadership Minor program provides students with a set of competencies and perspectives to begin to understand what is at stake in our religiously diverse world and how to make a difference in it in their own lives and in whatever careers they pursue. Those who develop the capacities of interfaith leadership understand that religion can be a source of conflict or an invitation to cooperation, and they know how to lead others toward the latter. Hence, an “Interfaith Leader” is a person with the knowledge, capacity for self-reflection and empathy, values and skills to lead inclusively and effectively in any religiously and spiritually diverse environment.

### FACULTY

**Barbara A. McGraw, J.D., Ph.D.,** *Professor, Director of the Interfaith Leadership Program*

### INTERFAITH LEADERSHIP ADVISORY BOARD

**Rebecca Concepcion, Ph.D.,** *Kinesiology*

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**Paul Zarnoth, Ph.D.,** *Psychology*

### LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students who complete the program will be able to:

- **IDENTITY/BIAS:** Reflect on students’ own and others’ identity formation and perspective; articulate how religious and other identities and worldviews affect perceptions of issues that arise in various environments and situations; and articulate how such perceptions can result in bias.
- **COMMUNICATION/DIALOGUE:** Demonstrate effective communication and dialogue facilitation skills that can be used to address interreligious conflict and promote interfaith cooperation, engagement, and understanding.
- **RELIGIOUS LITERACY:** Demonstrate an understanding of what it means to be religiously literate; articulate ways that religions differ in thought, practice, and organization; and articulate the meaning of “pluralism” in this context.
- **LEADERSHIP:** Identify interfaith challenges and opportunities; propose inclusive methods for addressing them; and articulate how to lead implementation of those inclusive methods.
- **APPLICATION:** Demonstrate interfaith leadership (as defined above) in a collaborative community-based project.

### INTERFAITH LEADERSHIP MINOR REQUIREMENTS

To graduate with an Interfaith Leadership Minor, students must complete courses in the following Program Core, which consists of four full credit courses and one quarter-credit project course. Students must also complete Two Electives, one from each of two elective categories.

#### PROGRAM CORE:

*Four Full Credit Courses + One Quarter Credit Project Course*

#### CHOICE OF ONE:

**Anthropology 001** Introduction to Social and Cultural Anthropology

**Ethic Studies 001** Introduction to Ethnic Studies  
**Business Administration 108** Interfaith Leadership in Business and the Professions

#### CHOICE OF ONE:

**Communication 106** Intercultural Communication  
**Ethic Studies 155** Advanced Intergroup Dialogue

#### CHOICE OF ONE:

**Justice, Community, and Leadership 150** Advanced Leadership Theory

**Business Administration 131** Managing and Leading Organizations

**Psychology 172** Groups, Organizations, and Societies  
**Interfaith Leadership 120** Interfaith Leadership Praxis (.25 credit)

TWO ELECTIVES, ONE FROM EACH OF  
TWO CATEGORIES:

1. Interfaith in Context Elective—One Course  
*Choose One Course from the following:*  
**Kinesiology 118 Issues in Community Health**  
**Psychology 150 Personality Psychology\*\***  
**Global and Regional Studies 001 Introduction to**  
**Global and Regional Studies**  
**History 162 Modern China**  
**History 163 Ethnic Identity and Conflict in China**  
**Politics 115 Theories of Justice**  
**Politics 143 Middle East Politics**
2. Enhanced Learning Outcome Elective—One Course  
*Choose One Course from the following:*  
**Anth 001,\* ES 001,\* JCL 150,\* Busad 131,\* Psych**  
**172,\* Comm 106,\* ES 155,\* Anth 117, Psych 163,**  
**TRS 104,† TRS 151,† TRS 152,† TRS 153,† TRS 154,†**  
**TRS 155†**

PROGRAM NOTES:

**Note on “Double-Dipping”:** Students may count up to two courses from their major and one course from another minor toward the Interfaith Leadership Minor.

**Note on Prerequisites for Courses from Other Departments/Programs:** Some courses in the Interfaith Leadership Minor may require permission of the instructor, if students do not have the prerequisites for the course. For example, **JCL 150** will require permission of the instructor, and entry in that course will depend on how far along students are in this minor. Also, only students who have taken **Psych 001** and **Ethnic Studies 001**, may enroll in **Psych 163 Prejudice and Stereotyping**. Students should prepare accordingly.

**Note for Interfaith in Context Elective:**

\*\* Psychology 150 only counts as an elective for this minor when it is taught by Caitlin Powell.

**Notes for Enhanced Learning Outcome Elective:**

- \* The asterisked courses will count for this elective only if they were not already taken as a part of the Interfaith Leadership Minor Program Core.
- † Theology and Religious Studies (TRS) courses for the Interfaith Leadership Minor will not double-dip with the Theological Understanding Core Curriculum (TUCC) General Education Requirement. To count as an Enhanced Learning Outcome Elective, these courses must be taken in addition to the two courses required for the TUCC requirement. Note also that other TRS courses may count for this elective upon approval of the Interfaith Leadership Program Director, who will confirm their inclusion in this program with the TRS Department Chair.

**C O U R S E S**

**IFL 120 Interfaith Leadership Praxis**

A field-based course required for students who plan to complete the Interfaith Leadership Minor. Through the integration of the Interfaith Leadership Minor learning outcomes, students receive hands-on experience in developing and conducting a project that involves building bridges of understanding and cooperation across boundaries of religious, spiritual, and/or non-faith differences. The course instructor and the enrolled student(s) work together in the development of the project, the implementation of which will be the student(s)' primary responsibility. Depending on the number of eligible students, this course may be conducted as an independent study or involve students working together in teams. *Prerequisites: All four Program Core full credit courses. Offered annually spring semester.*

**OTHER COURSES IN THE PROGRAM**

Course descriptions for other courses in the Interfaith Leadership Minor can be found under their respective department/program in this catalog, e.g., in Business Administration, Anthropology, Ethnic Studies, Psychology, Communication, Politics, History, Kinesiology, Global and Regional Studies, Theology and Religious Studies, and Justice, Community and Leadership.